REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the amended claims and the arguments set forth fully below. In the Office Action mailed August 21, 2007, claims 1-25 have been rejected. In response, the Applicants have submitted the following remarks, and amended claims 1, 10, 14 and 22. Accordingly, claims 1-25 are still pending. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the amended claims and the remarks below.

Examiner Interview Summary

On October 4, 2007, the undersigned and Examiner Pannula conducted a telephone interview. The Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for his attention and willingness to conduct the interview. During the interview, the undersigned and the Examiner discussed the Examiner's rejections under 35 U.S.C. §101, at which time the Examiner suggested a number of amendments for the undersigned to make to the independent claims in order to overcome this rejection. Furthermore, the Examiner and the undersigned discussed the independent claim 1 and the rejection to the same under 35 U.S.C. §103 in view of Bianco and Miyamoto. While no agreement was reached, the undersigned pointed out to the Examiner the features of the present application that are not taught in either Bianco or Miyamoto so that the Examiner would be able to make the thorough examination of the independent claims in light of these references upon further review.

Once again, the Applicants respectfully thank the Examiner for his time and attention during the interview.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §101

Claims 1-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101. The Applicants wish to note that while the Examiner lists claims 1-25 as being rejected, the Examiner only provides basis of rejections for claims 1-4, 14 and 22. Upon interviewing with the Examiner on October 4, 2007, as discussed above, the undersigned has a clear

understanding of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 as it pertains to all of independent claims 1, 10, 14 and 22. By the above amendments, the Applicants have amended those independent claims to include further limitations as recommended by the Examiner in the telephone conference of October 4, 2007 and therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §101 to all of the claims 1-25 as the claims are now not directed to software per se, and are definite and claim statutory subject matter.

Furthermore with respect to the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103 included below, the Applicants wish to hereby renew their rejections from the previous Office Action response and further provide the following arguments over Bianco, Miyamoto, and their combination.

<u>Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103</u>

Claims 1-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0249809 to Bianco et al. (hereinafter Bianco), in view of Japanese Patent JP02002027386A to Miyamoto (hereinafter Miyamoto). The Applicants respectfully disagree with this rejection.

Bianco teaches an electronic patient healthcare system for guiding a patient along a treatment pathway, related to a medical event, by educating and preparing the patient for the medical event and post event recovery. In short, the Bianco reference allows a patient to log onto a healthcare information provider system and follow a treatment pathway, such that the patient may be given pre-surgical tasks and treatment instructions to follow, as well as post surgical type treatment instructions as well. As is stated in the Office Action, Bianco does not teach generating electronic event. However, Bianco further does not teach an electronic image file event generator for generating electronic image file events related to the electronic image files nor a task engine for generating tasks related to the electronic image files based on the contents of said electronic image file events. In order to clarify how the Bianco and Miyamoto references are deficient in their teachings

with respect to the independent claim 1 the applicants further provide a better description of the present application system and method below.

In contrast to the teachings of Bianco, Miyamotor, and their combination the system and method for generating tasks related to electronic image files of the present invention includes a batch that includes an image file and a standard format. The image file may be representative of a scanned insurance card, or a medical form or an invoice. The EDM stores the image in a database, and shares the derived information (EIF events) from the batches with the task engine. The task engine further generates tasks related to the image or the EIF tasks. These tasks may include instructions or workflow for working the tasks and a link to the image in the database. As discussed above, neither Bianco, Miyamoto, nor their combination teach such functionality or structure.

The independent claim 1 is directed to a system for generating one or more tasks related to one or more electronic image files, said system comprising: a storage medium including a set of instructions; a processor configured to execute the set of instructions; an electronic document manager configured in the storage medium including an electronic image file database for storing the electronic image files and an electronic image file event generator for generating electronic image file events related to the electronic image files in response to the set of executed instructions; and a task engine configured in the storage medium in communication with said electronic document management module for generating tasks related to the electronic image files based on the contents of said electronic image file events in the response to the set of executed instructions. As described above, neither Bianco, Miyamoto, nor their combination teach the configuration as taught in the present application. For at least these reasons the independent claim one is allowable over the teachings of Bianco, Miyamoto and their combination.

Claims 2-9 are dependent upon the independent claim 1. As discussed above, the independent claim 1 is allowable over the teachings of Bianco, Miyamoto and their

combination. Accordingly, claims 2-9 are also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent claim 10 is directed to a computer implemented method of generating one or more tasks related to one or more electronic image files stored in an electronic document manager, said method comprising the steps of: receiving the one or more electronic image files; separating one or more electronic image file events related to the one or more electronic image files; sending the one or more electronic image file events to a task engine; entering a predetermined set of rules into the task engine, each of said rules having at least one predetermined condition; comparing said one or more electronic image file events to said predetermined sets of rules; and outputting one or more tasks if said one or more electronic image file events meets said at least one predetermined condition. As described above with respect to the independent claim 1 neither Bianco, Miyamoto, nor their combination teaches the configuration as taught in the present application.

Claims 11-13 are dependent upon the independent claim 10. As discussed above, the independent claim 10 is allowable over the teachings of Bianco, Miyamoto, and their combination. Accordingly claims 11-13 are also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent claim 22 is directed to a storage medium in which is contained a program generating one or more tasks related to one or more electronic image files stored in an electronic document manager, the electronic document manager being configured in the storage medium, the program comprising a set of instructions that, when executed by a processor, perform the steps of: receiving the one or more electronic image files; generating one or more electronic image file events related to the one or more electronic image files; retrieving a predetermined set of rules, each of said rules having at least one predetermined condition; comparing said one more electronic image file events to said predetermined set of rules; and outputting one or more tasks if said one or more electronic image file events meets said at least one predetermined condition. As described above,

neither Bianco, Miyamoto, nor their combination teach the configuration as taught in the present application.

Claims 23-25 are dependent upon the independent claim 22. As discussed above, the independent claim 22 is allowable over the teachings of Bianco, Miyamoto and their combination. Accordingly, claims 23-25 are also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

The independent claim 14 is directed to a system for generating one or more task related to one more electronic image files comprising an electronic document management module including an electronic image file database for receiving from a user and storing the electronic image files in an electronic image file event generator submodule for generating electronic image file events related to the electronic image files, and a task engine module in communication with said electronic document management module for generating tasks related to the electronic image files based on the contents of said electronic image file events, said task engine module including a task generation submodule including an event manager for receiving and storing said electronic image file events, a rule set manager including at least one predetermined set of rules provided by the user, each of said rules having at least one predetermined condition, and a task generation manager for comparing the electronic image file events to said at least one predetermined set of rules and outputting one or more tasks if the electronic image file events meets at least one predetermined condition to the user. As described above with respect to claim 1, neither Bianco, Miyamoto, nor their combination teach the configuration as taught in the present application image files. For at least these reasons, the independent claim 14 is allowable over the teachings of Bianco, Miyamoto, and their combination.
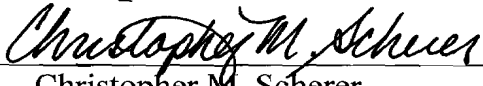
Claims 15-21 are dependent upon the independent claim 14. As discussed above, the independent claim 14 is allowable over the teachings of Bianco. Accordingly, claims 15-21 are also allowable as being dependent upon an allowable base claim.

For these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are now in a condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be appreciated. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, they are encouraged to call the undersigned at 414-271-7590 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP

By _____
Christopher M. Scherer
Reg. No. 50,655

Andrus, Sceales, Starke & Sawall, LLP
100 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 1100
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202
Telephone: (414) 271-7590
Facsimile: (414) 271-5770